
ARENA REPORT

Volume III, Number 17

June 10, 1991

Hello everyone and welcome to another issue of "AR". Sorry for not using the new masthead this week but I have so much material that I need all the room I can get. I'm glad I'll be back on the bi-weekly schedule. Every three weeks leaves me too much material to cover. In this issue we have two live reports. One is a UWF house show which took place in Ft. Lauderdale on 6/7. The other is the UWF PPV which maybe 1% of you saw. We also have Scott Hudson's last "Georgia Wrestling Journal" column as a single man as he'll be hooking it up with Debbie next Saturday. Congrats to both of them. Evan Ginzburg look at the last UWF tapings in his mind. Mike Terry rejoins us with his 2 cents. We also have two guest columnists this issue as Mike Lano and Jeff Bowdren both take a final look at SuperBrawl weekend. "Ramblings", letters, and results round out the issue.

Next issue will be cover dated June 24. We will have a live report on Eddie Mansfield's first tapings for his new promotion. We'll have lots more info on that group next issue. The taping is set for 6/15 at Universal Studios. Unlike Herb Abrams, this show is inside which doesn't take a brain surgeon to figure out that this is the way to go. Scott will be back from his honeymoon with a new Journal. Klon will have some views on the Clash which he attended live. Marianne Ryan will be by with some notes from her parking lot and Mike Lano has a special "Dr.'s Prescription Pad". I will also have some "Clash Chatter" as well.

"Arena Report" comes out bi-weekly and cost 1.00 per issue. All renewals, letters, results and the like may be sent to Arena Report, P.O. Box 952547, Lake Mary, FL 32795-2547. A label on your envelope indicates how many issues you have remaining. Before going to Ft Lauderdale, just a personal note, don't believe all those lies you've been reading about me in other sheets.

UNIVERSAL WRESTLING FEDERATION

Friday, June 7, 1991
War Memorial Auditorium
Ft. Lauderdale, FL

Tag Team Match

Black Hearts beat Rico Frederico & Fire Cat in 7:23. Cat was Brady Boone. Nash & Heath (Black Hearts) sold well early but all of a sudden there was no cooperation from anyone. There was some heat from the last time these teams met in Orlando as Rico wouldn't sell there. Some fan yelled at Luna that she needs Nutra Slim. Hey pal, it's either Nutra-System or Slim Fast. Other chants went out for "Steroids" and no it wasn't anyone in our group. (Bowdren, Flaherty, Rob, or ref Scott Dickinson.) Finish saw Hearts double arm suplex Rico into a powerbomb. Good move but I don't think it was supposed to be the finish but the ref counted three. After, Hearts hit the Demolition finisher on Rico which was probably the finish. It was said that Boone had a tantrum over the match after in the dressing room. Bowdren graded this *

2nd Match

Brian Blair beat Boris Zhukov in 10:18. Zhukov had a manager called Mr. Red who looked like a cross between Oliver Humperdink & Larry Sharpe. Cops made Dave Flaherty sit down when Dave insisted Mr. Red take his hot dog. Can't believe after all these years of the Russian gimmick that there is still tons of heat for it. Finish saw Red holding Blair from the apron and Boris charges but misses Blair and hits Red. Brian rolls up the huge headed russian. Dud

Ladies Match

Luna over Allison Royale with a Lunasplash from the top rope at 3:59. Not much here. Luna was her old crazy self. Bowdren graded this * for Luna's great splash from the top. How does it feel to be incriminated Jeff.

Tag Team Match

Power Twins went to a double count out with Steve Ray & Sunny Beach at 15:07. Wet N Wild (Ray & Beach) had to call fans down from the crowd to shake their hands. Pretty over aren't they? Match was awful. Decent brawling on the outside which led to ref Dickinson to count them out saved this from being a total washout. ½*

5th Match

Johnny Ace downed Bob Orton in 11:11 when Ace Orton threw ref Silverman down

to earn the DQ. I expected alot more out of this but didn't get it. *

Ladies Match

Rockin Robin bulldogged Penelope Paradise in 10:38. This was for Robin's basket of Easter flowers. Well, she came to the ring with them and left with them so I figured she had put them up against Paradise's umbrella. Penelope took the bump of the night when she got whipped out of the ring and hit the apron with her back and landed flat on her face. Luckily she just broke her nails. Good bout *3/4

Main Event

Col. DeBeers beat Paul Orndorff on a DQ at 8:11. Ref took a bump halfway through and the good Col. took off his belt and started whipping Paul with it. Later when DeBeers was tied up in the ropes, Paul took a belt and threatened the same and the ref DQ'd him while DeBeers ran to the back. Good brawling outside and decent action but the finish as most were tonight was lame as hell. **

NOTES

Crowd was 250 and they were pretty vocal.....Steve Ray and Rockin Robin signed pictures during intermission.....Ft Lauderdale fans win the award for most non-sensical chants. Two drunkards (worse than Dave) were chanting, "Beer; Beer." The Orndorff-DeBeers bout was to set the stage for their strap match on the PPV. Well it sold it to two people who bought tickets tonight for the Sunday show. It's a good 3-4 hour haul from Lauderdale-Palmetto.... As a matter of fact, one asked if the price of the ticket included bus fare.... Question of the night came from Flaherty who asked Bowdren, "Does the Kellster know your her tonight?" (In reference to his fiancée Kelly.) Like an idiot, I said, "Why does it matter if Wade knows Jeffs here." Duuh.

Ramblings

The major news this go around is that Dusty Rhodes has been pulled off of all TV. The brass thought he was putting himself over too much. That's the least of their problems. So when you see Tony Schiavone with Jim Ross at the Clash, that is why.....Can you believe Jim Herd telling Matwatch that the reason WCW is in the shape they are is because they are still feeling the effects of Ole? Yeah, I'm sure it was Ole's idea for Oz and all the rest of the crap they're doing.....Titan could be in hot water as their steroid supplier was arrested and will be going to trial. McMahon will be testifying and who knows if the WWF will come out smelling like a rose again.....Titan had Bruce Grummett ("AR" correspondent) and three of his buddies tossed out of a card in Lincoln, NE on 6/7. No physical abuse of the wrestlers or throwing anything into the ring which in my book is the only reason fans should get thrown out. Dave Hebner gave them their money back and told them if they show up in Omaha they'll throw them out again. That last comment could get Titan in hot water.....Survivor Series is skedded for the night before Turkey Day in Milwaukee this year. I guess Vince feels he has a better chance for a buy rate without bucking against the holiday cheer and football.....Sources inside Titan say the reason Sid Vicious was brought in as a babyface was because Hogan only wants to do this one more year. So Vince will be handing the torch to Sid Justice. (His WWF name.) Sid, by the way, got the biggest pop at the tapings in Arizona last week when he did run ins on Rougeau and Quake.....Luger will only hold the belt for 6 months as Barry Windham said to win the title at Starrcade.....WWF has dropped the gator gimmick for Steve Keirn. They felt it was too close to what Jake and Steamboat were doing. Easy solution. Take the stupid gimmick off of Ricky....Herb Abrams reportedly asked the boys working his PPV if they minded waiting a month after to get paid. Vince does it that way all the time. But you know he'll be around. Can you imagine with Herb's rep him having the gall to ask. The boys all said no.....Mansfield' TV starts up 7/5 on Sunshine Network. I was at his school last week and was impressed with a number of guys he's using in the promotion. He's mainly going to build up his own guys and not use that many name wrestlers. He's got a good wrestling mind but it'll be a tough road to hoe as these days it's tough getting over unknowns. I'd love to see him pull it off.....Steve Keirn working with Johnny Ace on a couple of PWF cards this week in Winter Haven and Tampa before starting with the Whiff.....How about that WCW. You have a guy who was a tag team wrestler and was probably the 2nd best in the promotion. After the team splits he stays to go solo. He's a dedicated employee and you give him the TV strap at SuperBrawl. Two weeks later you have him drop it to a guy who just came into the promotion. That's what happened with Steve Austin taking the title from Bobby Eaton in Birmingham last week. Way to keep a guys morale up.....Vince will be sending guys he's not using full time over to ICW to work some shots so he can keep them on the payroll and not lose them to WCW. Tito Santana was the first as he came into the ring in Brooklyn on 6/5 and challenged Tony Atlas. That is the main event on a card being booked for the Bahamas on 6/15. Bushwhackers getting a few shots next.....SWA in Tampa has folded after a split between Jeff James and Nasty Ronnie. All everyone has asked me is where are the Nurse Goodbodies going.....More on page 10 if room....

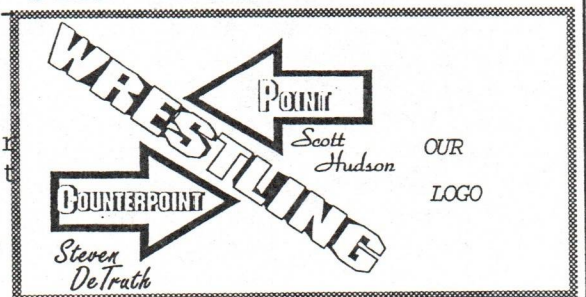
SCOTT HUDSON'S.....

GEORGIA WRESTLING JOURNAL

EEN PULLIC, EEF YA' WHEEL! I always visualize subtitles on the screen whenever I hear Big Dust speak those words. Bonjour, this is issue twenty.....

SPARKLES RINK (Lawrenceville, Georgia) 05-12-91 GEORGIA ALL-STAR WRESTLING TV TAPINGS FOR AIR THE WEEKENDS OF JUNE 8, 1991, THROUGH JUNE 22, 1991.

(06-08-91): Fabian over Eddie Sweat..Mad Dog Joe over Festus..Brute Force over Cliff Owens & James Myers..Chris Walker & Mike Cervich over Steve Lawler & Atom Steele..(06-15-91): Chris Walker & Fabian over The Avengers..Mad Dog Joe and Festus DCOR..Joel Deaton over Steve Lawler..(06-22-91) Big Bully Busick over Cliff Owens..Brody Chase over Vortex..Billy Black over Mike Cervich..Scotty the Body over Fabian..NEWS AND NOTES: Boy, where do we start?..(06-08) A newcomer by the name of Atom Steele, who is the younger brother of Fabian, debuted as a heel alligning himself with Lawler & Busick Mad Dog Joe, a jobber, pinned Festus using the bone ala Moondog Spot. Joe does a Buzz Sawyer-type barking gimmick..Brute Force is legit a heavy metal band who just released their first CD called "Out For Blood"..Billy Black, the current TV champ, complains about the lack of competition on this show and is immediately challenged by Mike Cervich..Following Fabian's 06-08 squash, Scotty the Body jumps him and leaves him laying. Scotty laughs about it during the live close..(06-15) Festus threatens to return to the Blue Ridge Hills is not given a rematch with Mad Dog Joe..During a fictitious match held "last Friday night at a jam-packed Edmund Farhat Arena in Douglas, Georgia", the PYT's lost the Georgia Tag Team Championships to Fabian & Chris Walker. Fabian was a last minute sub for Curtis Thompson in this scenario as Thompson had an emergency appendectomy. The last part about Curtis Thompson is a shoot. The real story about the entire situation is that the PYT's did not want to do the job. They should re-name themselves the "Pretty Young Stings"..Scotty does an interview laughing about how easily he handled Fabian on the 06-08 show and says he is going to get a partner so he can win the tag team straps..A Deaton vs. Lawler rematch for Deaton's Georgia Heavyweight title ends as Busick & Steele interview causing Lawler to be disqualified. The three triple team Deaton and basically plummet him until Billy Black approaches the ring. Black's manager, Abe Lincoln, tries to keep Black from getting involved but Black slugs Abe and makes the save for Deaton, thereby turning Black face (with apologies to Al Jolson). During this, Brute Force and Atom Steele have the babyface dressing room held shut preventing any face from making the save. Black came from the heel dressing room. This was also done in a ring with no ropes as they collapsed during the match. Really an incredible angle..(06-22) Brody Chase, called the "Stray Cat" from Catnip Alley, went over as the PWA Heavyweight champ. Black & Cervich have a totally scientific match with the crowd fully into the "new" Billy Black..During the great Fabian vs. Scotty match that closed the show, a 6'6" Sid Vicious-like monster named Van Hammer walks up. He trips Fabian up by reaching over the top rope from the floor allowing Scotty to get the pin. Chris Walker Tries to make the save but he, along with Fabian, is left laying by Hammer. Scotty and Hammer close the show with a really good interview. This was an awesome debut..This was a really angle-packed taping that should translate well to television..Thanks to Steve Beverly for the nice words and citations over the past few weeks in Matwatch..Great to meet Arena Reporters Craig Yarman and Gary Lynch at this show..Do not believe that Titan will get exclusivity at the Omni (ATT:130.Poor)

THE LAST WORD...

A PIECE OF MY MIND BY EVAN GINZBURG

I've taken some heat (pardon the pun) for my promotional efforts in the past year and a half. Everywhere you've looked you've seen my "**shameless**" plugs in a hyping frenzy of unparalleled proportions. Well, that's over. I've gotten my 10,000th subscriber (for my sheet which will remain **nameless!**), banked my first million, and am tired of living a Madonna-like existence, plagued by groupies and autograph seekers alike!

Thus, I present the new, hopefully improved **plug-free** A Piece Of My Mind!

(IRS agents in the audience, please note the above is meant as satirical!)

Well, I'm still reeling from the most recent, disastrous UWF tapings. The night began on the right foot, starting 50 minutes late. Cactus Jack & Paul Orndorff left before getting in the ring, heading out to Philly for a Joel Goodheart show. With few exceptions, it was all downhill after that. Steve Williams had the best match of the night with Steve "Wild Thing" Rey, Terry Gordy and Don Muraco had a 90 second brawl (that's giving the fans their money's worth!), Bam Bam Bigelow & Dr. Death went at it briefly in hyping their PPV match-up, and of course the big news was the return of Bob Backlund as he and Ivan Koloff shot two angles hyping his comeback. Other than that, **nothing**; a long, gruelling night.

I would however, like to mention a few of the **off-camera** points of interest. After the show, Backlund stood and signed autographs for all who wanted them. The fans had given him a **spontaneous standing ovation** earlier in the evening and it was a legitimately warm moment. While signing for everyone, one of wrestling's countless hanger-ons told Bob that his "car was waiting" which of course is the universal code for "You don't need to sign autographs for these geeks." Bob responded with a sincere "These people have written to me all these years. They never forgot me. I want to sign as many as I can." He made a special effort to speak to the children (many of whom weren't even born when he was champ). Again, the cameras were **off**; this wasn't an act. This is a **class guy**. I wish him all the luck in his return. Ironically, I felt a lot more respect towards the guy today, then I did when he was champ, as I never compared him favorably to his predecessors, Bruno or Graham. In hindsight, though, seeing what the business has evolved/deteriorated into, a **pure** wrestler as a major champ would certainly be a welcome change over the "monkeys, birds, parakeets, snakes" as Lou Albano says. Welcome back, champ.

I also saw a couple of the kids go up to Herb Abrams for autographs, which he readily signed. He was also sincere when he asked them "Are you enjoying the show?" The guy wants to entertain, but when you let Cactus Jack walk out of the building without wrestling, and have incredible talent like Gordy, Williams & Bigelow wasted, you have to wonder just what's going wrong, and say to yourself "Hey, Goodhart would put on a **great** show with the very same talent." I hope this doesn't come off as cruel, because I'll always support a local indie, but this card just didn't "make it", and it's not enough just to see the "big names" live- someone has to remember to put on a show.

I know I've said it before, but I'll say it again (and I hope this doesn't come off as "playing up to" somebody because I'm sure as hell don't get paid to write in AR), but with nearly 50 sheets on the market, Ron's is one of the very few I **always** enjoy. I give him a great deal of credit for that as I **know** how hard it is, and he makes it look easy.

And on that upbeat note...

Catch you all in another month with another brilliant, awe-inspiring, darn near semi-entertaining piece of my mind...

UNIVERSAL WRESTLING FEDERATION

Beach Brawl

Sunday, June 9, 1991
Manatee Civic Center
Palmetto, FL

Dark Match

Boris Zhukov hit Paul Sampson with the russian sickle at 7:23. I guess the UWF wanted to emulate WCW with a horrendous dark match before the PPV starts. Sampson is a local. ***

Tag Team Match

The Black Hearts beat Jim Cooper & Firecat (Brady Boone) in 6:48. All action. No rest holds whatsoever. A lot better than the Lauderdale match. I guess Boone smartened up. Boone threw a great Mexican headscissors. Good moves by the Hearts. Finish saw one of the Black Hearts drape Cooper across his knee and the other used a flying legdrop from the top rope. Same finish as Lauderdale. I said it was the Demo finish there but it was this one. After the bout, Luna attacked Boone with a chain. Good stuff. **½

Street Fight

Terry Gordy and Johnny Ace went to a double count out in 6:23. Worse booking than WCW. They both wore their regular gear in the street fight. It was supposed to be Muraco vs. Gordy but Don no-showed. Ace came to the show in shorts not knowing he'd be replacing Don. They should have scrapped the street fight than. DCOR a stupid finish but Terry didn't want Ace to take the pin due to all the Jap press there. Guy behind me said, "I've never fought a street fight in shorts before." At one point, Ace screwed up a dive over the ropes. Looks like he slightly hurt his knee. Terry looks great. He slimmed down incredibly. When he came in the arena, it took me a couple minutes to figure out who he was. They brawled up into the stands and all over for about 10 minutes. ***

Tag Team Match

Brian Blair & Jim Brunzell over Power Twins in 13:01. They call the Bees "Mass Confusion". But the Power Twins come to the ring with fly swatters. Funny if you called Blair and Brunzell The Killer Bees but the joke was lost. Match was terrible. I've yet to see the Twins in a decent bout. At one point with ref Scott Dickinson telling one of the twins to leave the ring, he responded, "I'm leaving, I just had to make a pit stop. Bees won with the mask switch gimmick. -*

UWF Ladies Championship

Rockin Robin won the ladies title beating Candi Divine in 6:16. Robin was still cold from Friday night. Divine looked horrible. Robin rolled up Candi after she missed a corner charge. -**

Strap Match

Paul Orndorff beat Col. DeBeers with a piledriver in 3:28. Some good licks from both with the strap. After the pin, a fan gave Paul a flag and while he was waving it, DeBeers attacked him and shot a stun gun into his chest. Good acting by Paul as he quivered on the canvas. I guess this feud isn't over. *½

Legends Match

Bob Backlund pinned Ivan Koloff in 2:23 with a cradle into a bridge. Bob got no reaction whatsoever. Koloff was managed by Big Red. Bob looked good doing all wrestling holds. This was supposed to go 10:00 but they had to cut the later matches. After the bout, Lou Albano came in and punched Red and then pantsed him. Why? He didn't even interfere with the bout. Dud

Tag Team Match

Wet & Wild (Steve Ray & Sunny Beach) beat Cactus Jack & Bob Orton in 4:42. John Tolos made his last appearance for this group since he's now with Titan. He was suspended above the ring in a steel cage. Cactus hit Ray with an elbow from the second rope while Ray was laying on the concrete. While ref was down, Tolos threw knucks to Orton who hit Cactus insread. Ray scored the pin. After it was the turn of Manson as Orton attacked him. Cactus juiced during the bout and it got worse in the aftermath. They brawled all the way to the back. **

UWF Television Championship

Steve "Dr. Death" Williams pinned Bam Bam Bigelow in 8:41 to become the first UWF TV champion. Great match. Both juiced. Doc bladed Bammer and he did a nasty job. Bigelow stood up and it was like a faucet. Before the match, Herb Abrams came into the ring and showed the \$100,000 belt. No

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(continued on page 10)

A NON-OBSCENE LANO WEEKEND FOR ARENA REPORT BY DR. MICHAEL LANO

First off, I'd like to thank Ron for picking me up at Tampa Airport. One thing about Sheet Guys- they are like extended family in every city, and it was the thrill of the trip to finally shake hands with Lemieux, Klon, Hudson, Levine, Siegel and all my drinking buds. The non-wrestling events are barely discribable since they centered around the now in and infamous MONS VENUS establishment that Mr. Gunner's money and loans more than paid for both on the 18th and 19th.

The week began with me plopped rightinadesert(right in Santa Fe). I had spoken with "someone wearing a ridiculous outfit despite his magnificent abilities" who works for Titan telling me that if he survives another 3-4 months in Titan, it would be a miricle(despite a hoped for two-year, already contracted stint). Several days later I was on a flight from Hell that we've all experienced at some point in our travels- enroute to the Philly indie May 18th and the WCW PPV May 19th in Tampa/St. Pete. My flight out of SFO sat on the ground 1.5 hours(citing nonexistent "weather" in Chicago) and then I sat on the runway with no fresh air for over 2 hours in Chicago before Tom Robinson picked me up 2 hours late in Philly. And no, this is not Lance Levine writing this mondo bizarro trip exper (experience). Another brother in the biz, and top indie promoter, Dennis Coralluzzo put me up in his place with the "killer Siamese Cats." The wrestling in the states may be messed up, but our sheet pals always make up for it. HERE'S THE PHILLY, JOEL GOODHART RESULTS:

opener bunkhouseish battle royal was a ridiculous opener-about 14 guys bring their gimmicks in and dump them in the ring's center(baseball bat, ax, shovel, ballpien hammer, skillsaw, golfclub, no sink) and wait outside the ring for the bell to ring. Once rung, they jump in and grab their weapon and go to it. One of Joel's guys won it- but I wondered do you politely wait your turn before you grab ONLY your weapon... what if you grab someone else's? The Pit Bulls failed to win the TWA tag titles and the 3rd match made history. Cactus n.c. Eddie Gilbert in a bloody match booked by Atsushi Onita. Both juiced from all parts of their body-"That barbed wire around the ring was the sharpest ever!" said Eddie later. He also blatantly showed the smarts his bic before he set the magician's flash paper "on fire" and burned Foley. Then Cactus made good on a promise to me that "I want to show you guys something you've never seen." Afterwards I told him not to show us that again. He got tossed into the ropes, and flipped over like outside the ring where his head was wrapped up in the ropes and barbed wire. He must have been trapped, screaming, for what seemed like ages before his lovely fiance, Collete came down to help. Since I was the only medical personnel there, I got some icecold compressed towels on him and Collete took care of the rest. Some goon of Joel's wanted to pour rubbing alcohol(ouch!) on his wounds in the back-where I asked if they were out of their mind. Joel ate it big on this show-Terry, Murdoch, Jarret, Embry and Idol no showed. Dory got paid then to just run in on Lawler beating Honkey via dq, Omdorf b Rude via dq, and in Jim Cornette's proclaimed "4 finger stinker"-Al Perez-Landel b the heel Fabs when the ref reversed the pin on Landel. The match sucked because Perez won't put out and is as over in Philly as dog do. Everyone else worked their butts off, especially the even more in shape Landel. At the same time, Landel was still being announced as in the Florida indie main. They kept saying he was there, even tho most smarts knew he replaced Idol days earlier for Joel in Philly, and when they announced his weight and stuff for the main- they said the cops had taken him away for a d.u.i. What Pink Cadillac said to the fat battle royal winner is unprintable, but would make Cornette laugh. And laugh we did, live and in Dusty's living color at the Oz skit. Why can't we debut that kind of crap on syndicated where they can film it in a real soundstage, with good prod. values- and edit the shit out of it to make it passable. I never yell smart stuff, but being 5 feet from Dust, I couldn't help but yell "who booked this crap?!" And did I tell ya, I bumped into Sherri(as in Sensational) at Tampa Airport, where she said she hadn't even been asked to be at Moolah's Ladies Convention in Vegas-where she's billed as m.o.c. and head celeb. Jeez... "Vince wouldn't let me go anyhow..." She's a sweetheart- I told her she's the hardest Titan worker. Oh yes- all the guys at Mons Venus... if you want my detailed blow by blow analysis of each match-up- send a s.a.s.e. and the pornographic revelations, entitled "I'll never wash these de-flowered jeans again" is yours provided all the guys say so. Lano and Siegel def. Candy in a handicamper, Levine beat Kim 3 straight falls, and Gunner won the battle royal. 5 stars, Joe Bob Dr. Lano sez check it out, Arena-sters. Greatest weekend with all my pals in my life! We never solved the titan-ick mystery of "WHERE WAS FERK?" however for the Mullins-man.

Late Result:

Baltimore Arena (WCW)

Baltimore, MD

June 7, 1991

Correspondent: Bruce Ginevan

1) Black Blood beat Tim Horner with a guillatine off the top rope. 2) Dustin Rhodes beat Moondog Rex & Dutch Mantell by himself when Ricky Morton left him' alone. 3) Angel of Death pinned Sam Houston with help from the ropes. 4) Bobby Eaton beat Terry Taylor with a small package and afterwards, Taylor and Hughes beat Eaton senseless till the ref layed on top of Bobby. 5) Ric Flair over El Gigante via count out when El had the claw while standing on the apron and Rinc was in the ring. This was a no DQ match. Good finish eh? 6) Missy sprayed Paul E. in the eyes to win the arm wrestling contest. Nuff said. 7) Barry Windham beat Brian Pillman in a taped fist match. 8) Steiners over Arn and Gang when Scott pinned Arn. Arn chased Gang and Sully back to dressing room with a chair. ATT: 800 All time low in B-More.

IT'S MY 2-CENTS

by Mike Terry

Is he the Ultimate Warrior or the Ultimate Gigolo? I've never believed the Globe before and I'm not about to start now. I'll wait until those bastions of journalistic integrity at Hard Copy play their hand. Certainly no truth to the rumor that the Warrior will soon shoot commercials for a new video game: Gay Boy by Nintendo.

For what it's worth, I think Paul E.'s being wasted not having managerial duties. He's one of a kind at ringside. Ditto Bobby Heenan. I suppose announcing is more important in terms of "visibility" and overall contribution to the show, but these guys are masters at getting heat and that's missed. Of course, as mentioned in this column some time back, it seems managers in general are being portrayed differently these days. They seem to be more comic relief than anything else. Hmmm...I've just described wrestling in the 90s. The point is (you knew I'd find one in here somewhere) I miss the villainous, conniving, treacherous managers at ringside.

Speaking of Paul E., I'm tired of Jim Ross constantly telling him to "Shut up" or calling him "stupid." Sure, it's part of the act, but it doesn't seem very professional on Ross' part.

I added \$9.95 to the Titan Bank & Trust for Wrestlemania's History and Heroes. Money well spent, actually. I had forgotten how good Hogan & Mr. T vs. Piper & Orndorff was. Let me rephrase that. I had forgotten what great heels Piper and Orndorff were. It was funny how they used their wrestling knowledge and pure strength to make the awkward Mr. T go exactly where they wanted him to go and covered for T when he blew up.....the show also made me realize how much I miss Jesse Ventura.....and how much I don't miss Ted Arcidi.

Wonder what the Chamber of Commerce in Stamford, Connecticut thinks of Prime Time Wrestling's opening segment?

Here's a shot out of left field. You turn on your TV late on Saturday night...seek out a horror chiller, and who's the host? Paul Bearer! Why not market him in syndication as a weekly horror movie host? Elvira with talent.

Spare change: I never saw Jerry Lawler at his height as a baby face, but for my money, these days he's much better as a heel.....

Was any reason ever given by WCW why they didn't show any Fujinami matches to build up Superbrawl? It can't be that they're so stupid it didn't occur to them. There must have been a reason. And don't tell me they needed the opportunity to expose the stars who'll be their bread and butter when Fujinami is long gone. When millions of dollars are at stake, one would think WCW would at least attempt to market half of its main event. With Hase, Chono, and Muta on the way soon, where are some clips of them? Maybe the WCW braintrust (there's your oxymoron of the day) discovered some magic mushrooms at the end of the yellow brick road.

Once again, you have to hand it to the creative whiz kids of TBS for the Superbrawl promos. The one with the wrestlers in the rock band is the best I've ever seen.

So you look at the set of the Funeral Parlor and the Barbershop and you know the WWF dropped a few bucks to make them look good. Then you see the set of the Bull Drop Inn and once again it's clear who's number two and just another reason why.

Once the body bag matches & desert storm matches have run their course, Vince will need a new stipulation. How's this: The loser goes to WCW!!!

Nickname of the month: Bobby Heenan on The Rockers: "Laverne and Shirley."

That's more than enough for this time. Have a terrific summer and I'll catch you again next month.

P.S. to Jim Herd. You can take Sid off the Power Hour opening montage any time now. He's working for your competition.

AN OPEN LETTER FROM BOOKER BOWDREN

Dear Cheryl's Husband,

Well, since I announced to the world (Well, maybe 23 people who actually watched the cable access channel that carries Shannon Rose's show.) that I'm a featured columnist in your sheet, I thought I'd actually drop you a line. Of course I'm also faced with the fact that letters to the sheets are now being graded! The pressure is on! And since I'm no longer known as "Jeff Bowdren" but now as "Bowdren the Booker" I have an extra burden to fire out a 4 to 5 star letter.

Let's get to a few observations: Had a blast in St. Pete despite some legit at-home-heat. It was great seeing those Greensboro maniacs, Hudson, Klon, Gunter, (by the way, don't let Mike's innocent face fool ya- this guy definately has a "Heart of Darkness") Harry White & Dick Bourne. It was also nice meeting for the first time guys like Lano, Lance Levine (Geez Lance, can't you even send me one stinking comp issue?) & Gabriel Daigle. As I've often told people, the real fun of going to these PPVs is almost never the card itself, but hanging with a bunch of guys from all over the country who have almost nothing in common except a love for wrestling, strip joints, and eating that delicious Dennys cuisine. The indy show on 5/18 was a blast. The Raul Mata vs, Nasty Ned match was a great brawl, though I'm sure it couldn't compare to a Ricky Rice vs. J.W. Storm classic. (Smart aleck comment #1 for the record.) No truth to the rumor that Bruce Mitchell will be the new prez of the Lou Perez fan club. ("Hey Lou! How does it feel to be the bad Perez brother?") Dave Flaherty was....well, Dave Flaherty. Dave, truth be known, has two personalities. The 1st side is a decent fun loving womanizer. The 2nd side, also known as "The Bitch Magnet", is this mostly annoying character Dave becomes after a case of Coronas. This is the one who runs through a hotel lobby screaming, "I want tits in my face". I still remember the night P.S. drank him under the table though. Yagermeister!

From the home office in Parts Unknown, NC: The top five most discussed topics in St. Pete. 5) The stupid "Oz" character. 4) The Mata-Nasty Ned match. 3) Two words: Mons Venus. 2) The Lame ring announcer at the indy. (heh-heh) 1) Alex Marvez & Howard Brody- Are these the two most annoying guys in wrestling or what? As Jeff Siegel asked, "How did the surgery go when they removed Marvez from Meltzer's hip?". Overall though, I had a great time.

And now, a personal note, if you will....For those of you out there who seem to feel that putting "Bowdren the Booker" in the Observer is somewhat sacreligious....CHILL OUT! (Don't be surprised, there are people that feel that way.) I write it for fun and that's the way I want it to be interpreted. Lets not try and take wrestling so seriously! And will someone please tell old whats his name that does the cartoons, you know, the one who until February hadn't been to a live card in thirteen years (!!), that I don't look like some genetic defect from an unholy tryst between Joe Pedicino & Jim Ross? Geez, at least make it look sorta like me! And one last thing. Hey Mullins! Regarding 5/91 Sushi: Who says I pick on the green boys at cards? Especially since, prior to that issue, I had only been to the Royal Rumble (Hey Ron, remember Gina?) in the last 8 months. (And once again, that was 8 months, not 13 years.)

Later,

The Booker

P.S. Aw shit! I forgot to make some nasty comments about the Boy Wonder, who by the way was not responsible for the new "Oz" character....

CORRESPONDENT'S CORNER

Dallas Sportatorium (USWA)

Dallas, TX

May 17, 1991

Correspondent: Bill Cody

1) Jeff Jarrett pinned El Grande Pistolero. 2) Tojo Yamamoto & Little Tokyo over Danny Davis & Karate Kid. Totally pathetic. 3) Bill Dundee pinned Bogeyman (former ref Rick Hazzard). 4) Sweet Georgia Brown beat Madeline Collins. 5) Robert Fuller & Jeff Jarrett beat Eric Embry & Tom Prichard via dq when the Texas Hangmen interfered. 6) Karate Kid beat Little Tokyo and afterwards, Embry and Prichard attacked the midjet until Fuller and Jarrett made the save. 7) Texas Hangmen beat Gary Young & Terry Daniels. They all tried but no one cared. ATT: 300

Sioux City Auditorium (WCW)

Sioux City, IA

May 21, 1991

Correspondent: Bruce Grummert

1) Black Bart over T.C Carter. 2) Black Blood (Billy Jack) over Sam Houston. Dud 3) Dustin Rhodes bulldogged Moondog Rex. 4) One Man Gang over Big Josh. 5) Ron Simmons defeated Stan Hansen via DQ. 6) Freebirds beat Young Pistols when Fantasia interfered. 7) Lex Luger over Nikita Koloff. 8) El Gigante beat Ric Flair in a very short match ending when Ric simply walked back to the dressing room. Fans were miffed. ATT: 708

Correspondent: Bruce Grummert

1) Black Blood over Sam Houston. 2) Dustin Rhodes bulldogged Black Bart. 3) Freebirds & Fantasia beat Young Pistols & Tommy Rich. 4) Big Josh downed Stan Hansen via DQ when Stan used the bullrope. 5) Ron Simmons beat One Man Gang via DQ when Teddy Long & Kevin Sullivan interfered. 6) El Gigante over Ric Flair via DQ when Gang and Kevin came into the ring. 7) Lex Luger pinned Nikita Koloff. ATT: 480

Sterling High School (WWA)

Stratford, NJ

May 25, 1991

Correspondent: Steve Dickinson

1) Jungle Jim McPherson and Jimmy Atlas went to a fifteen minute draw. 2) Chris Candido beat Scotty the Body who injured his shoulder in this bout. 3) The Sledgehammer over The Ringmasters in a handicap bout. 4) The Spider over Boy Gone Bad via DQ. 5) Nikolai Volkoff defeated Cactus Jack via DQ. 6) Golden Phoenix beat Bob Orton via count out. ATT: 300

Memorial Hall (WCW)

Kansas City, KS

May 25, 1991

Correspondent: Bruce Grummert

1) T.C. Carter beat a local jobber. 2) Ric McCord over Mike George. 3) Steve Ray & Ranger Ross beat New Zealand Militia. (Victory & Morgan) 4) Bobby Eaton over Terry Taylor in the best match on the card. 5) Scott Steiner & Bobby Eaton (Rick no showed) beat Arn Anderson & Angel of Death. (Spivey a no show.) 6) Sting over Barry Windham via DQ due to interference from Arn. This was a t&p contenders match so when does Sting get the shot? ATT: 828

Florence High School (WWA)

Florence, NJ

May 25, 1991

Correspondent: John McAdam

1) Jungle Jim McPherson won the Jr. title from Chris Candido. 2) Chief Thunder Mountain beat New Jersey Nightmare. 3) The Spider over Jimmy Atlas via DQ. 4) Chris Evans & Ray Odyssey won the tag straps from the Lords of Darkness. 5) Golden Phoenix beat Boy Gone Bad. 6) Cactus Jack over Morgus the Maniac. 7) Bob Orton and Nikolai Volkoff went to a double count out. ATT: 800

LETTERS TO "AR"Questions

Is Bob Backlund making a comeback in the UWF? Is Gorilla Monsoon going to be the next president?

Bob Luedke
Passaic, NJ

RL- I don't know if you can consider working for the UWF a comeback. It could be just for that one bout vs. Ivan Koloff. I don't think he's considering a full fledged return to the ring....I heard that the WWF is leaning to Lord Alfred Hayes as their next prez.

I.R.S.

Imagine the following scenario: DiBiase is on the Funeral Parlor for an interview. Ted starts up his usual ramblings about everyone having a price for the Million Dollar Man. He then intros Irwin R. Shyster, claiming even he has a price. DiBiase rambles on about all the tax write offs he'll have from this new alliance. To make it official, Shyster & DiBiase have a contract that each of them will sign. DiBiase signs first. Instead of a pen I.R.S. takes out a stamper. He keeps the contract out of camera range as he stamps it. DiBiase's smirk turns to a look of shock as he sees in bold red letters the word AUDIT. I.R.S. then informs him that not even "Million Dollar Man" can get away with cheating on his taxes. I.R.S. is turned face as a result (remember, this is the WWF we're talking about), and a series of horrid matches come about to torment the fans. While I have your attention, why did Mike Royunda leave WCW? Michael Wallstreet was a heck of a better gimmick than I.R.S. has so far proven to be.

John Herron
Marble Hill, MO

RL- Not a bad scenario but you're turning the wrong guy. And I don't think the matches would be too bad. Rotunda left over a contract dispute.

SuperBrawl Weekend

I have to say Superbrawl weekend had its ups and downs. I felt the indy card Saturday night was good and the WCW show was just okay. I'm making my judgement on expectations of what I had anticipated from both shows of course.

Nasty Ned and Raul Mata's match was better than half the matches on the WCW show. Where on Earth did the SWA get that taller ring announcer-what a geek! By the way, any truth to the rumor that Adrian Street is headed into Titan? And that he's teaming with Ultimate Warrior? And they're going to call them the "Gay Blade Runners"? Gotta go, the song is over.

Greg Goode
Ft. Lauderdale, FL

Although I saw alot of famous people in the crowd at SuperBrawl (Jeff Bowdren, Dave Flaherty, and John Hitchcock among others), where was Ron Lemieux? Was that you in the front row with your Jason Hervey disguise on, Ron?

J.Z. Travis
Woodstock, ONT

RL- I'm not telling but I was definately not the guy making obscene gestures while Missy was doing her interview with Zenk.

Names

I've noticed that every new wrestler brought into either promotion is missing one thing-a first and last name. I can't remember the last time a wrestler and not a character was brought into Titan. (Shane Douglas doesn't really count since he wasn't pushed.) The Undertaker, Berzerker, I.R.S., and Tugboat pop into mind right away. Even those who use to have names are now losing them-the Hitman, the Anvil, the Dragon, Texas Tornado, etc.

Dusty is even joining into the act. He's brought in P.N. News, Diamond Stud, Johnny B. Badd, and Oz. Runnels may not have learned to copy the things Titan does right, like drawing fans to house shows, but he sure learned to copy bringing in offensive stereotyped characters without real names.

While I like everyone else, I long for for wrestlers who get over on ability, I don't think we're going to return to two-named grapplers anytime soon. Heck, even the world's best worker, Jushin Liger, is a cartoon character, and he was created by the respected booker Jeff Bowdren.

So, maybe the sheetworld should follow suit. Hey, Dave Meltzer could become "The Guru", Jeff Bowdren "The Booker", Lance Levine-"Mr. Sarcastic" and Ron Lemieux could become "The Perfect Gentleman". (Or something like that which fits his image.) Oh where have the likes of Bob Backlund gone?

Eric Krol
Orland Hills, IL

*****Q*****
(Beach Brawl continued)

wonder his checks bounce. He shook hands with both wrestlers before the bout but he made believe Bam Bam wouldn't let go. He fell to the mat. Knew he had to get a few yucks somewhere. A moment I'll never forget is Doc's daughter sitting fromt row with his wife (what a looker) yelling, "Come on Daddy! Halfway through they left their seats as the juice from Doc was too much for his wife to let the 8-9 year old girl watch. Dots of two counts before Doc won with a stampede. *** $\frac{1}{2}$. Would have graded it higher but it wasn't long enough.

NOTES

Crowd was 550 but I'm sure the paid was alot lower. Was told by people that watched it on TV that theyblackened out the stands so it didn't look as bad as it could have....After the Doc win, Herb got in the ring and issued a challenge to all the other champs.UWF officials were glowing after the show as they thought it came out super. TV viewers told me it looked dis-organized.....Faces in the crowd: Rocky Johnson (looking real out of shape), his son who is built like a rock, Sonny King (on crutches with a broken leg), Al Costello, Nasty Ronnie, Bob Cook, Raul Mata, and Rob Russen who was sitting front row with his wife Noel. (Preston Steele's valet.) Russen had a sign that said, "Herb Who?". Sour grapes or what....Good to see "AR" subscribers Paul Spiegel, Shannon Rose, Bobby Collins, and Eric DePalma.....The UWF program listed several new faces on the way in. The Juicer, Tom Brandi, and Scotty the Body. Wonder if Joe Pedicino knows about that last one. As a matter of fact, I wonder if Scotty knows it....Saw Baclund enter the arena. Looked like a lost soul. None of the TV crew knew who he was. Kind of felt bad for the guy so I made it a point to say hello.... Thumbs in between on the show. I didn't expect any thing and I got some so not so bad.

That's it for this issue. Alot I didn't cover but I'll get to those items next go around. To all those that asked for plugs, I'll get them next issue.

See ya,

Ron